

## INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

## NORTH DAKOTA PIPELINE AUTHORITY

Governor
John Hoeven
Attorney General
Wayne Stenehjem
Agriculture Commissioner
Roger Johnson

July 2, 2007

The Honorable Joseph Kelliher Chairman Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 1<sup>st</sup> Street, NE Washington, DC 20426

Dear Chairman Kelliher:

RE: FERC Docket IS07-359-000

North Dakota is the 8th largest oil producing state in the United States. Oil and gas companies in North Dakota produce 115,000 barrels of oil a day and over 185 mmcf of natural gas a day. Pipeline bottlenecks currently exist on the oil pipeline infrastructure in North Dakota which inhibits area producers from readily accessing markets with their production. This situation has created market conditions that have resulted in depressed prices for western North Dakota crude oil.

The North Dakota Industrial Commission acting in its capacity as the North Dakota Pipeline Authority supports consideration of any and all options that could aid producers in more readily getting their products to market. The present Enbridge expansion proposal before you is one option that bears consideration.

The North Dakota Industrial Commission acting as the North Dakota Pipeline Authority respectfully requests that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission act upon Enbridge's request as expeditiously as possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Sincerely

Mark Makelky, Director

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North Dakota Pipeline Authority

c: Enbridge